

1711. 8.
A Full ACCOUNT of the ~~Life~~
LIFE and VISIONS
OF *J. J. a*
NICHOLAS HART:

Who has every Year of his Life past, on the
5th of *August*, fall'n into a **Deep Sleep**, and
cannot be awaked till Five Days and Nights
are expired, and then gives a surprising Re-
lation of what he hath seen in the Other
World.

taken from his own Mouth, in September last;
after he had slept five Days in St. *Bartolo-*
mew's Hospital, the *August* before.

By **WILLIAM HILL**, of
Lincolns-Inn, Gent.

The Truth of all which the said *Nicholas Hart*
hath attested under his Hand, the 3d Day of *Au-*
gust, 1711. before several credible Witnesses;
and declar'd his Readiness to make Oath of the
same.

He began to Sleep as usual, the 5th Day of this In-
stant *August*, 1711. at Mr. *Dixies*, at the Cock
and Bottle in *Little Britain*.

Entered according to Law.

L O N D O N: Printed for John Baker, at the Black
Boy in *Pater-noster-Row*. 1711. Price 2d.



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THE LIFE and VISIONS OF NICHOLAS HART, &c.

NICHOLAS HART was born at *Leyden* in *Holland*, on the 5th Day of *August*, 1689. his Father's Name is *John Hart*, and is so learned a Scholar and Mathematician, and a Teacher thereof, that the late King *William* was about two Years under his Tuition. His Father and Mother had ten Children, who were all born on the 5th Day of *August* in ten successive Years. His Father predicted of three of his Brothers, at the time of their Birth, that they would come to shameful Ends; which accordingly came to pass; for one was kill'd with a Cart, another was stab'd as he was boxing with a Man that would have fought his Father; and the third was both hang'd and drown'd, as his Father had foretold; for he being with some others in a Boat, passing under a Bridge against the Stream, in a time of a great Flood, the Boat sticking upon the Bridge, he, to save himself, got up and got hold of the Bough of a Tree, which being caught hold of his Breeches, and there he hung by his Head downwards, in the Water, till he was drown'd; his Companions in the Boat not being able to save him, because of the Violence of the Stream.

Nicholas hath an elder Brother and a younger still living at home with his Father, and one Sister well married.

He can speak *French*, *Dutch* and *English*, pretty well; is a no Scholar, having used the Sea ever since he was about

about 12 Years of Age ; but he is free from gross Vice, honest, sober, sensible and religious. I have heard him complain with Tears, at the Swearing and Debauchery of the sick and wounded Seamen and Soldiers, whom he was forc'd to be in company with, because he was in *St. Bartholomew's* Hospital with them, in order to be cur'd of the Gravel and Stone in the Kidneys, and was divers Weeks there before the 5th Day of *August* last, in Curtain-Ward.

I was often with him there, and in other Places, sometimes with Friends, and sometimes in private by my self, when he seriously told me, that when he was born, which was on the 5th Day of *August*, 1689 (being 22 Years ago this 5th of *August*, 1711.) as his Friends have since inform'd him, his Mother had been 24 Hours in a Trance, and was not sensible when she was deliver'd, and continued in the Trance two or three Days and Nights after his Birth ; and says, that on every 5th Day of *August*, since, he always falls into a Trance, or dead Sleep, so as not to be awake for five Days and Nights together, which he can no way help or avoid ; and always knows and foretels, and his Father (who is a great Astronomer) also foretold it of him, and that he should not expire in any of his Trances.

When he was at home with his Father, and was come to some Understanding, divers Divines, Scholars, Gentlemen and Physicians, would (upon Notice of the Time when *Nicholas* us'd to wake out of his Trance) come to his Father's House, and sit about his Bed, to hear and take down what he would say when he came out of his Trance. And the first thing he usually did then was to call for a Pint or two of Water, to drink ; and sitting up in his Bed, would relate to them about him whatever he heard, saw, or was revealed to him in his Trance, of which some of the Astronomers about him would take Notice in Writing. This was his Manner and Usage from Year to Year, while he was at home with his Father. And he told me that he had a strong Impulse upon him that he could not forbear but must relate whatever he knew, heard, or saw, in his Trances, as soon as ever he came out of them. And one time more particularly he told me, coming out of his Trance, he acquainted his Father and Mother, and others, then standing about his Bed, that he had seen his Aunt, viz. his Mother's Sister, come to a certain Palace Gate (where he always appears in his Trances, and which is hereafter more particularly describ'd) and knocking at the Gate, desired Admittance, but was told by him that kept the Gate, that there was no

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Entrance for such as she, that was a drunken, wicked Woman, and often abused God's good Creatures to Excess, and would, in her drunken Fits, throw the Meat her Husband had provided for her, about the House, &c. therefore she must now go to a Place where she should eat nothing but Toads, Vipers, Snakes and Serpents, and must eat them whether she would or no, and have no manner of Drink, not so much as a Drop of Water; whereupon immediately the Devil came, in the Shape of a black Man, in a kind of a Carr (hereafter explain'd) and carried her away in it, she roaring, and shrieking, and yelling, in a most dreadful and inexpressible Manner, with her Tongue hanging a great Way out of her Mouth, and black as a Coal. While he told these Things of his Aunt, his Mother standing by, wept bitterly, and his Father smil'd, saying, he could expect to hear no better of her; but both of them then, and for a Fortnight after, conceal'd from *Nicholas* that she died while he was in that Trance; nor did he so much as know or think any such thing, till about a Fortnight after, he went to see his Uncle, and asking him for his Aunt, he then told him she was dead, and when she died, which confirm'd and brought to his Mind afresh, what he had seen become of her after her Death, for he knew her to be a very wicked Woman, as is before describ'd.

Nicholas Hart also acquainted me, that his two Brothers at home seeing him so much taken notice of by the Gentry and others that came there to see him, and themselves little regarded, they took a Spleen against him, and hated him, and agreed together (like *Joseph's* Brethren) to set his Father against him; and to that end, they contriv'd and invented several Lies against him, and both of them averring the Truth of their lying Stories to their Father, made him often beat *Nicholas* severely, without Cause, which he resenting very much, when he was about 11 or 12 Years of Age, told his Father that he could not bear his Brothers Malice and Lies against him, but that he would go to Sea, to avoid them; at which his Father being concern'd, told him that he should not go from him, nor would he suffer his Brothers longer to abuse him: Whereupon he staid some Time longer at home; but finding his Brothers Malice rather to increase than diminish, and that his Father did not prevent it, one Sunday Morning, about three of the Clock, in the Summer time, without telling any Body, he stole down Stairs without

out his Shoes (being but fleetly provided with Money or Clothes) and getting out of his Father's House, he went away to *Amsterdam*, and engag'd himself with one Captain *Bernew*, Captain of the Ship *Cassau*, to go to the *East Indies* on a Voyage for three Years and a half; and did go accordingly; the Captain knowing him, and hath ever since led a Sea-faring Life from one Place to another: But he positively affirms, That where-ever he is on every 5th Day of *August*, in every Year, be he aboard or on Shore, he then begins to sleep for five Days and five Nights, during which time he continues in his Trance; and always tells the People, where-ever he is, that he must so sleep, and cannot help it, neither can he be awaken'd till that time be expir'd; and he did so sleep in *Curtain Ward*, in *St. Bartholomew's Hospital*, the 5th Day of *August* last, 1710. (when he was just 21 Years of Age) and every Year his Spirit or Soul goes to one and the same Place, and sees and hears the same Things in one Year as another, but at different times, and transacted on different Persons; and that when he is in his Trance, no violent Means can awaken him till his Time be expir'd, and he awakes of himself. For instance, about three Years ago, he being on Board a *Dutch Merchant Ship*, was taken by the *French*, and soon after retaken by an *English Man of War* (whose Name and the Captain's he hath forgot) by whom he was set on Shore at *Dartmouth*; and coming to *London*, he enter'd himself on Board the *Barwick*, at *Chatham*, the Beginning of *July*, 1709. he then not speaking a Word of *English*: There was but one Man in the Ship that could understand what he said (and he not very well) to whom *Nicholas* told that his Time was almost come, wherein he must sleep five Days and Nights, and could not be awaken'd; but the Fellow not understanding, or not regarding him, on the 5th Day of *August*, 1709. he fell into his Trance in his Hammock, on Board the said Ship, in the Dock at *Chatham*; and after he had continu'd for some time, the Boatswain of the Ship came and call'd him, but he not waking, and the Boatswain supposing he pretended to sleep only to avoid doing his Duty on the Watch, &c. he took a Cane and beat him severely, till he was all over black and blue; but he could not awake him; then he cut down his Hammock or Bed, and let him and it fall down on the Deck, but that did not awake him; then the Boatswain called the Lieutenant of the Ship, who beat *Nicholas* as he lay on the Deck, twice as

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much as the Boatwain had done, but not thereby awa-
 king him, they call'd the Surgeon of the Ship, who bli-
 ster'd him all over his Back; then they took a Penknife
 and cut the Nails of his Fingers from the Flesh, but could
 not awake him till he came out of his Trance, and then
 his Body was in so miserable a Condition, by the Barbari-
 ty that had been us'd towards him, that he could not stir
 any of his Limbs for a considerable time after; but he got
 the Man that could understand him a little, to tell the
 Captain and Lieutenant of the Ship, that he could not
 help his sleeping five Days and Nights on every 5th Day of
 August, and that they had ruin'd him, by being so barba-
 rous to him for no Crime of his, whereby they had dis-
 abled him to serve as a Seaman; besides, he was much
 afflicted with the Stone and Gravel in the Kidnies, which
 also disabled him from serving any more at Sea; and there-
 fore he craved to be here discharg'd, and set on Shore,
 and be put into an Hospital, to endeavour to be cured of
 his Distempers; whereupon he was some time after set
 on Shore, and put into Curtain Ward in St. Bartholomew's
 Hospital in West-Smithfield, divers Weeks before the 5th
 Day of August, 1710. and he soon learn'd to speak
 English intelligibly, often told the People of the Ward,
 that on the 5th of August then following, he should go in-
 to a Sleep or Trance for five Days and five Nights; but he
 was not much believ'd till it came to pass, on the said 5th
 August, 1710. on which Day there was then in the same
 Ward and Hospital, two Persons under Cure, the one
 nam'd William Morgan, who had a very sore or mortify'd
 Toe; and in Curtain Ward he was known by the Name
 of the Man with the sore Toe, more than by his own
 Name; and Nicholas Hart told me that he knew him be-
 fore he fell into his Trance, only by the Name of the
 Man with the sore Toe, and not by the Name of William
 Morgan: This Fellow was very wicked, atheistical, un-
 orderly and disorderly in the Ward, would not take the
 Doctor's Prescriptions, was much given to horrid, pro-
 phane Swearing, &c. and at the same time, in the very
 same Ward, there was another Man ill, who was of a quite
 contrary Temper, obliging to all in the Ward, so that all
 the Ward loved him. He was one that prayed to God in
 Illness, he belonged to a Company of the Marines,
 his Name was John Palmer. Nicholas before his last
 Trance (which was the said 5th Day of August, 1710.) was
 well acquainted with this John Palmer, and they were
 both

both living when he fell into his Trance last *August*, and in the same Ward with himself. When the said *5th* of *August* came, *Nicholas Hart* (as he had long and often foretold) fell into his Trance in *Curtain Ward* aforesaid, and when he had continu'd therein two Days and Nights, the People there began to remember and believe what he had said; and his lying in this Trance being noised abroad, there came Multitudes of all sorts of People to see him, in somuch that they were forc'd to shut up the Ward-Gate, to prevent the Crowds that came there; but abundance did see him as he lay in his Trance, they perceiv'd he had Breath in him, and did sometimes stir himself, but could not be awaken'd, till on the *10th* Day of the same Month he awak'd himself, his Spirit being return'd into his Body, he then open'd his Eyes, and sat up in his Bed, and call'd for two or three Pints of cold Water to drink, for he was very faint and thirsty. Then as his usual Custom was, he told all the People of the Ward, and others that were about his Bed, when he came to himself, where he had been, and that he had seen the Man with the forked Toe deny'd Entrance into the Pallace (or Heaven) and then there came the Devil in the Shape of a black Man (as seem'd to him) who took him up, and put him into a kind of a Carr, which carry'd him to a dismal dark Hole, or Pit, he howling, roaring, yelling and shrieking in a dismal and dreadful manner; and I desiring *Nicholas Hart* to explain unto me, what he meant by the Carr and the dark Hole, he told me by degrees, and after many Questions put to him, made me understand, that when ever he is in any of his Trances, he (as seems to him) travels a great way on a sandy beaten Road, having Grass and Fields on both sides of it to his Appearance; which Road he told me, that Souls that leave the Body, must and do go, both good and bad; that when they have travelled therein some time, they all come to a great Castle, or Pallace, that stands at the end of the Road, in which place is heard nothing but great and melodious Rejoycing, Singing, and Raviſhing Muſick: So that all departed Persons go and knock at the Gate of that Castle, or Pallace; that they come thither all naked, only something about their Waste, and all in great Sweat; that such as hang themselves, or come to untimely Ends, come with a (seeming) Rope about their Necks, and others with the Wounds or Instruments whereby they were kill'd by (but these are never let in) that they all knock at the outer Gate for Entrance, and presently appear

an antient Man, with short white Hair on his Head,
 a long white Beard down his Breast, a short Coat, or Jacket,
 he calls it, to his Knees, and his Legs and Feet bear
 an extraordinary Person knows all the Names and Acti-
 ons of all that come exactly, and whatever they have done
 in the Body, and speaks all sorts of Languages; his Voice
 is awful and searching, that it quickly pierceth to the
 Heart and Conscience of those that hear him; that he comes
 by a Bridge from the Pallace or Castle-gate to the outer
 Court when any knock to come in, and asks who they
 are, and what they would have: then they tell their
 Names, and he before-hand knowing all that they have
 done in this Life; if their Lives have been good and regu-
 lar, he opens the Gate, and lets them in, without asking
 any more Questions, and they presently enter with
 joyful Countenances, their Eyes and Hands lifted up,
 singing and praising God all the way they go through the
 Garden, which is full of Trees, and those full of sweet
 Flowers, with little Boys on them, with white
 curl'd Hair, round smiling Faces, and Wings on their
 backs, flying from Tree to Tree, and gathering the
 Flowers, strew them in the Walks under the
 Trees, and others of them making Garlands or Crowns
 of those white Flowers, to put upon the Heads of those
 who are admitted into the Castle or Pallace; and then
 they pass on through the Walks and Musick, under the
 Trees, treading on the white Flowers on the Ground, till
 they pass on through the first Garden into another infinite
 endless Place, till they are quite out of sight, and he
 sees them more.
 He further seriously declar'd to me, that as for
 those that have led wicked Lives, when they knock at the
 Gate, the antient Man calls them by their Names, tells
 them in short, how wicked they have been, and instan-
 ces some Particulars, which they are soon convinc'd of,
 that they have been Liars, Drunkards, Gluttons,
 Whoremongers, or covetous Persons, or were
 unmerciful or charitable to the Poor in the World they
 came from, and therefore they must not enter into that
 Place, but must go to another Place prepar'd for
 them, whereupon Satan presently appears at the Gate in
 the shape of a black Man, with a Cart or Carr (as ap-
 peared to him) which is drawn by two black Dogs, with
 curl'd Tails, their Claws being about a Foot
 long, and he lays hold of all them that are deny'd Entrance
 into

into the Castle or Pallace, and throws them into Carr, sometimes twenty at a time, and drives them away (they shrieking, roaring and yelling all the time, in a terrible and inexpressible manner) to a great dark Hole Pit hard by, on the left Hand of the Castle or Pallace, and casts them in roaring and yelling, where they fall down long while, till they are out of sight; and more particularly he solemnly declar'd to me, that the antient Man the Gate always knows him, calls him by his Name, every Year lets him into the first Garden of the Palace where he remains, and about the Palace Gate, till time comes to return back into this World; and then calls him, and tells him his time is expir'd, and he go back again; that then he sighs and sobs (being loath to depart from that joyful Place) and awakes with Trouble and after he hath drank some Water, sits up in his Bed and declares to all about him where he hath been, what he hath seen; and this he cannot refrain to do but he gets off from his Bed; and consequently he did tell me he declare to all that were about his Bed, in *Curtain Ward* in the said Month of *August*, 1710. when he awak'd out of his Trance; and to me, divers times, that he did see the Man in *Curtain Ward* (known by the Name of the Man with the sore Toe) come to the aforesaid Palace Gate, and knock there for Entrance, and that the antient Man calling him by the Name of *William Morgan*, told him how long he had knock'd there: he reply'd that Years, to whom the antient Man said you are a Liar, have not knock'd there three Minutes, you were always a wicked Man, and would not in your Youth obey the Instructions of your Parents; and that he must go to the Place appointed for such as he; and thereupon he began to roar and roaring in a dismal manner, the black Man, or the evil came with a Carr, drawn by Dogs as aforesaid, and flung him and divers others into the Carr, and drove them to the Pit aforesaid, and put them therein, as is here expressed; and that he did not know his Name (till he knew the Man when he saw him) till he heard the antient Man call him by the Name of *William Morgan*. He further told me, that there are two Carrs drawn by Dogs as aforesaid, and that one comes every Minute to the Gate, to carry away those that are deny'd Entrance to the Palace; that very few enter therein in comparison of those many that are driven away in the Carrs; that the antient Man tells every one of every Nation in their

language, what they have done in this Life, and where they must go, and sometimes when any beg they may go back again to lead a new Life, he replies, ah poor Soul, is too late now! and that some come every Minute an Hour from all Parts of the World; and that some whom he supposeth to be rich Misers) come with great Bags of Money upon their Shoulders (as plainly appears to him) but are deny'd Entrance, and they and their Money are all flung into the Carr with Contempt, and that an antient Man, of all Sins, most commonly repeats lying and want of Charity to the Poor; and is so much incens'd against Liars, that *Nicholas* seriously told me in his Opinion it was better to lose a whole World, than to tell a wil-
Lye.

Nicholas Hart also told the many People that were at his Bed-side at the same time, when he came out of Trance, that just before the afore-said antient Man, at Pallace Gate afore-said, gave *Nicholas* notice to return to this World again, he seriously affirm'd he saw *John Palmer* the Marine afore-said, knock at the Gate of the afore-said Castle, or Palace, and knew him well, and that he saw him let in presently by the antient Man, who ask'd him no Questions, but he saw him enter in with great Joy in his Face, his Hands and Eyes being lift up to Heaven, blessing and praising God, and the little Boys or Angels presently flew with a Crown of Flowers, and put it upon his Head, and he saw him walk along the melodious Garden, till he entred into the infinite, endless Place at the end of the first Garden, and then the antient Man told *Nicholas* he must return, and called him by his Name, and he awak'd full of Sighs and Sobs, and ask'd the By-standers about his Bed, where the Man was with the fore-mentioned, they then (but not before) told him he dy'd while he was in his Trance; he desir'd to see his Corps, but they told he was nail'd up in his Coffin. Then he ask'd where is *John Palmer*, they then (and not before) told him he also dy'd while he was in his Trance, and desir'd to see him as he lay dead in the Ward; whereupon he arose from his Bed and went to the Place, where he saw him lie dead upon his Back on the Straw, and said, happy *John*, you are blessed; very many besides *Nicholas* in *Curtain Ward*, will averr, and he himself also upon Oath, if requir'd, that he did not know, nor hear, that either *William Morgan* or *John Palmer* were dead, till after he had related to all the Company what he had seen.

become of each of them as afore-said: And it is very observable, that *John Palmer* dy'd the same Morning before *Nicholas Hart* came out of his Trance, on the 10th of *August*, 1710. This Affair hath had so many hundreds, or rather thousands of substantial and undeniable eye and ear Witnesses of the Truth thereof, that in the Month of *September*, 1710. *Nicholas* told me he was to be introduced to her excellent Majesty the Queen, to give her a full Account of the Truth of these Matters, and that a noble Man that knew Mr *John Hart* his Father in *Holland*, was to introduce him to Her Majesty at *St. James's*; and he told me before-hand, the Day he was to go; and after he had that Honour, he told me he had been with Her Majesty two or three Hours, and fell on his Knees at her command, and fully satisfy'd Her Majesty of the Truth of the Matters afore-said, and answer'd what ever Questions Her Majesty and the Persons of Quality put to him in *French*, which he can speak, and *Dutch*, better than *English*. He also told me Her Gracious Majesty was pleas'd to shake Her Head, when *Nicholas* told her how barbarously he had been us'd on Board the *Berwick*, one of our *English* Men of War.

Upon the whole, I really take *Nicholas Hart* to be a very honest serious Fellow, worthy to be believed, and one who durst not be guilty of telling a wilful Lie. I have been divers times, and at divers Places with him alone in Company: And we two have walked in the Fields together to *Islington*; and I have been several Hours with him alone, and asked him seriously all the Questions I could think of, and always found him in the same Story. Amongst other things I put to him, when we were by ourselves, I ask'd him if he always in his Trances, went to the same Place, and saw the same Sight; he answer'd me, but transacted on divers Persons that he knew not; he told me, that the ancient Man at the Gate knew him, and call'd him by his Name, and always let him into the Garden in the Castle or Palace, where was always ravishing Joys, and melodious Musick, and Singing, and a vast multitude of little Boys, with Wings, flying up and down the Trees; and that two or three of them would take him between them, upon the Trees, and bring him down to the Walks; and that notwithstanding his Father, Mother, and all People, tell him, he is absent; Day and Nights, when he goes into his Trances, yet he himself never thinks it above two Hours, because of the ravishing

lights of the Place, And he is always troubled when the
 ancient Man tells him he must return into this World a-
 gain. I ask'd him if any Women were let into the Palace,
 and how he knew they were Women? he answer'd yes, and
 that he knew them by their Breasts and Hair. I told him
 abundance of little Children died before they could speak,
 &c. and ask'd him what became of them? he answer'd,
 that the ancient Man always let them in, and that the first
 Garden, where he was, was full of them, and them only,
 and that the Men and Women passed through that Garden
 further, into an infinite endless Place of Joy and Bliss. And
 that the Children were little Boys with round Faces, white
 curled Hair, and Wings on their Backs, and that they sung
 and rejoic'd, and gather'd Flowers and strewed them on the
 Walks, and made Crowns or Garlands for the grown Per-
 sons, let in by the ancient Man. I ask'd him if any Papists,
 with their Beads, Crosses, or shav'd Crowns, or any Qua-
 ners, &c. were admitted into the Palace? He answer'd
 there was no Distinction of Persons or Opinions, but all
 seem'd alike; and the ancient Man at the Gate, whose
 voice was very awful, did not ask what Opinion any were
 of that came to the Gate, but how they liv'd, and what
 good they had done in the World; and that a true Faith in
 Christ, and a good Life, were the only Means of getting in-
 to the Palace. And he particularly told me, that in one of
 his former yearly Trances, there came a rich Lady to the
 Gate, that had done much good to the poor in her Life-
 time, but the ancient Man told her, that all those Acts of
 charity which she had done, would have been of no avail
 to her, because she order'd her Steward to book down her
 charities; but she had done one Piece of Charity (which
 Nicholas then told me of) that she order'd her Steward not
 to book down, and for the sake whereof she was admitted
 to the Castle or Palace. I further ask'd Nicholas if they
 eat or drank within the Palace, and if there was Day and
 Night there as here? at which he smil'd, and said, No, no,
 need to eat and drink, and no Night there, but always
 Light, always Light and Joy, and such Delight as cannot
 be express'd; and that he saw such things there and with-
 out as are not possible to be told with the Tongue of Man;
 and some things that he must not tell to any Creature li-
 ving. I knew he loved me, for I had done him several
 kindnesses, and he would come speedily and gladly to me,
 when and where-ever I sent for him, and once came out
 of his Bed to me, but I could never get him to declare of
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what Nature those Secrets were. Once he telling me his Father was rich, and got a great deal of Wealth, and had provided well for his Brothers and married Sister, and that he had not seen him in 8 or 10 Years; I replied, Why don't you go over to him? It may be he will do for you. He answer'd, I am afraid to be rich, for very few of them are admitted into the Palace, in comparison of the poor, afflicted and miserable, in this World. I asked him, If he should be cut for his Distemper of the Stone in the Kidnies, and die in the Operation, if he believ'd the antient Man he spoke so often of, and that he said knew him so well, would admit him into the Palace? He replied with a kind of joy, that he hop'd he would; and that he would freely forgive the Surgeons, if they killed him in the Operation. I ask'd him jocosely, if he could not speak a good Word for me to the antient Gentleman, to let me in? He answer'd seriously, that my own good Deeds must recommend me to him; for he was awful and very majestick. I ask'd him, if there was no mention made there of Jesus Christ, and of Faith in him? Yes, yes, said he, Faith in Jesus Christ, and do good and be charitable to the poor, is all in all, and they that want these must all go into the Carr.

One Night last September, I appointed my Wife, my Sister Gordon, one Mr. Severne and his Wife and Daughter, meet me at a Publick House, near Smithfield, to see and discourse Nicholas Hart, but he was gone to Bed about a Clock. I being loth to disappoint them, sent my Name and desired him to come to me and my Friends, and presently rose out of Bed and came to us. I had before hand desir'd my Friends to ask him all the Questions that as well as I could think of, and he answer'd all to our Conviction and Satisfaction; and further, he took a Piece of Chalk, and on the Wainfoot in the Room, describ'd the Way to the Castle, and the outer Gate, and the Bridge between that and the Castle-Gate, and where the antient Man stood at the Gate; and stay'd about two Hours with us, confirm'd to us all or most of the Matters before-mentioned as they and divers others of my Friends are ready to testify upon our Oaths, if requir'd. And moreover, I do not but to bring this Nicholas Hart into the Company of those that may desire it of me, he still living in Little Britain, London, where Thousands and Ten Thousands may see and discourse him, if they please, when his Trans- over.

Upon the whole Matter, I seriously think he deserves to be credited in what he says, and that he dare not tell a wilful Lie : And I am apt to believe, that had he been a Scholar, or a Man of sublime Notions, or had a metaphysical Head, or a fine and curious spiritual Fancy, the Substance of what he relates would have been reveal'd to him in some Way suitable to such a Genius, or not at all : But he being but of a vulgar Capacity, (tho' honest and sensible) the Manner of the Revelations are suited thereto, not to confute or convert pretended Wits or Atheists ; but to convince true, plain-hearted People of the Reallity of those Matters that are discover'd yearly to him, in a Way most agreeable to their unlearned Conceptions and Understandings ; and yet not contrary to what is reveal'd to us in God's Holy Word. And to the Truth of the Substance of this Narration ; and especially to what I my self heard from his own Mouth, I hereto set my Hand this 14th Day of December, 1710.

Wm. Hill, Sen. (N^o 1.) in Lincolns-Inn.

POST-



POST-SCRIPT

Aug. 3. 1711.

THE said Captain [unclear] having heard all the pre-
siding Relations this Day read over to [unclear]
Presence of divers credible Witnesses, [unclear]
them all own the fact to be true in all its Circumstances
and says that he certainly expects to begin [unclear]
ding to his usual Manner, on Sunday next, [unclear]
August, 1711. about Noon. To the End, where-
he hath also set his Mark.

The Mark of [unclear] ©

POST